

THE TOWN OFFICERS
AND
SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICERS
MAKE THEIR
ANNUAL REPORT



TOWN OF MASON
NEW HAMPSHIRE
For The Year Ending
DECEMBER 31, 1955

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Officers and Committees

of the Town of

MASON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

For The Year Ending December 31

1955

With Report of

SCHOOL DISTRICT

For the Year Ending June 30, 1955

352.07
M39
1955

INDEX

Action Taken, Annual Town Meeting, 1955	54
Appropriations	24
Budget of the Town	18
Cemetery Trustees' Report	37
Comparative Statement	22
Cover Write-up	3
Details of Payments	30
Forest Fire Warden's Report	42
Library Building Committee's Report	41
Library Trustees' Report	38
Old Home Day Committee's Report	42
Schedule of Town Property	24
School District Budget for 1956-57	45
School Calendar	44
School District Officers	44
School District Treasurer's Report	43
School District Warrant	53
School Nurse's Report	48
School Statistics	48
School Superintendent's Report	50
School Treasurer Auditor's Certificate	47
Selectmen's Report	42
Statement of Bonded Debt	20
Summary Inventory of Valuation	26
Tax Collector's Report	27
Town Clerk's Report	27
Town Officers	4
Town Treasurer's Report	30
Town Trustees' Report	36
Town Warrant	5
Treasurer of Library Trustees	38
Vital Statistics	55

OUR COVER

"We see all this every day and we think we know it!" said a fifth-grade boy, sitting cross-legged on the stage floor, a sketch he had made of the Parsonage door in one hand, a stick of charcoal in the other.

"Not till you start to paint something do you **know** it—" remarked a seventh-grade girl atop the high ladder, vigorously slapping splotches of yellow paint along a branch of one of the big maples.

"Gee, I never thought there were so many colors of bricks!" commented a sixth-grader, mixing a darker shade of pink.

Our cover, reproduced from a photograph, taken by Frederick C. Dumaine III, of a portion of the backdrop for the play, *THE BOOKMOBILE COMES TO MASON*, painted by the Grammar Grade children under the guidance of Elizabeth Orton Jones, represents an adventure in creative expression which ran through the group like wildfire, routing all other interests for a period of three weeks. School-time, after-school-time, recesses, lunch hours and Saturdays were filled with excitement and eagerness as the boys and girls took their turns working in the Town Hall. When, at last, on the evening of the performance, the Prologue said, ". . . The scene we hope you will recognize," and the curtains parted, there was a spontaneous storm of applause, while proud and happy smiles lit the back-stage darkness.

More lasting and less perishable than a painting done in poster paints on wrapping paper is the backdrop which will hang permanently in the minds and memories of the boys and girls, wherever they may go, whatever they may become: — our little town of Mason with its mellow old buildings, huge trees, golden leaves, surrounding hills and blue, blue sky; because they **know** it, because, in the year 1955, they painted it.

TOWN OFFICERS

Clerk and Treasurer

Charles F. H. Crathern March 1956

Moderator

Toivo Kivimaki November 1956
Frederic Martin, pro-tem

Selectmen

Forrest A. Cameron March 1956
Raymond C. Akerman March 1957
Thomas B. Calkin March 1958

Tax Collector

Herman O. Schulze March 1956

Auditor

Toivo Kivimaki March 1956
Leland Wildes, pro-tem

Highway Agent

Harold C. Miller March 1956

Supervisors of Check List

Harold C. Miller November 1956
Guy F. Washburn November 1956
Vivian Ilomaki November 1956

Ballot Clerks

Lillian Valyou Appointed
Mildred Wharff Appointed
Lillian Leino Appointed
Elsa Crathern Appointed

Library Trustees

Elsie Resor March 1956
Lena B. Miller March 1957
Elizabeth O. Jones March 1958

Trustees of Trust Funds

Charles F. H. Crathern March 1956
Tracy A. Eaton March 1957
Conray G. Wharff March 1958

Trustees of Cemeteries

Conray G. Wharff	March 1956
Frank Newell	March 1957
Alfred Spear	March 1958

Police Officers

Forrest A. Cameron, Chief
Irving Spear, Special, appointed
Charles F. H. Crathern, Special, appointed

Director of Civilian Defense

Charles F. H. Crathern	Appointed
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Fire Wardens

James Bell, Chief	Appointed
Carl Valyou, Deputy	Appointed
G. Porter Washburn, Deputy	Appointed
Loren Brown, Deputy	Appointed
Curtis V. Dunn, Deputy	Appointed
Harold C. Miller, Deputy	Appointed

Health Officer

Harlan E. Karr, M. D.	Greenville, N. H.
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Librarian

Elsie Resor

Town Hall Janitor

Guy F. Washburn

TOWN WARRANT

The State of New Hampshire

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Mason in the County of Hillsboro in said State, qualified to vote for Senators:

You are hereby notified to meet at Town Hall in said Mason on Tuesday, the Thirteenth day of March next, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subjects:

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

2. To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges for the ensuing year and make appropriations of the same.

Town Officers' Salaries	\$1,500.00
Town Officers' Expenses	800.00
Election and Registration	250.00
Town Hall and Other Buildings	600.00
Police Department	100.00
Fire Department	150.00
Health Department	50.00
Town Dump	75.00
General Expense Highway Dept.	500.00
Winter Roads (Snow Removal)	2,000.00
Town Poor	300.00
Parks and Playgrounds	150.00
Aid to Soldiers and Families	500.00
Employees' Retirement Act (Social Security)	100.00
Interest	500.00
County Tax	2,079.63
Old Age Assistance	500.00
Total	<hr/> \$10,154.63

3. To choose:

- (a) One Trustee of Trust Funds for three years.
- (b) One Trustee of Cemeteries for three years.
- (c) One Library Trustee for three years.

4. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$200.00 for Library purposes, or take any action relating thereto.

5. To see if the Town will raise and appropri-

ate \$2,500.00 for Repairs of Highways and Bridges, or take any action relating thereto.

6. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the approximate sum of \$587.36 for Town Road Aid, in order to obtain State Aid for Maintenance, Construction and Re-construction of Class V Highways in the approximate amount of \$3,863.16.

7. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate a sum of \$1,000.00 for partial sealing coat on hard top roads from Brookline line to R. R. crossing on Depot Road and from Mason Center to Trempe's corner on Wilton Road, or take any action relating thereto.

8. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$250.00 for care of Cemeteries, or take any action relating thereto.

9. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$100.00 for Memorial Day purposes, or take any action relating thereto.

10. To see if the Voters will authorize the Selectmen and Treasurer to borrow a sum or sums of money not exceeding in the aggregate \$15,000.00 in anticipation of the collection of taxes for the current year, and to issue in the name and on the credit of the Town negotiable notes therefore, said notes to be repaid during the current municipal year from taxes collected within the current year, or take any action relating thereto.

11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$225.00 for Street Lighting, or take any action relating thereto.

12. To see if the Town will vote a discount on whole, or partial payments of taxes, and fix the date of payment the same, or take any action relating thereto.

13. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$100.00 for the purpose of pruning and spraying the shade trees on Town property, as a protective measure against Dutch Elm Disease, or take any action relating thereto.

14. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to sell Real Estate bought by the Town at Tax Sale, provided that they sell it to the last former owner and provided that the sale price is sufficient to reimburse the Town for the taxes and for all expenses to which it has been put, or take any action relating thereto.

15. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to sell Real Estate owned by the Town at prices which, in their judgment, are fair and equitable, or take any action relating thereto.

16. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate a sum of \$300.00 to insure Employees of the Town, or take any action relating thereto.

17. To see if the Town will vote to have any and all unexpended balances of all previous appropriations — not including School and Veterans' Memorial appropriations — and all moneys reimbursed and refunded to the Town during the previous fiscal year returned to the General Fund, or take any action relating thereto.

18. To see if the Town will vote to set aside, as voted last year, a sum not to exceed \$500.00 as a

special fund for the purpose of installing a suitable War Memorial on the Town Common, or take any action relating thereto.

19. To see if the Town will vote to petition the State Tax Commission to have an audit made of all Town records, by the Division of Municipal Accounting, and to make an appropriation to cover the expenses of such audit, or take any action relating thereto.

20. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$34.00 for the Monadnock Region Association of Southern New Hampshire, or take any action relating thereto.

21. To see if the Town will vote to allow the Collector of Taxes compensation for his services in collecting the State Head Tax, and to fix the amount thereof at 8%, or take any action relating thereto.

22. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for the purpose of Graveling and Draining Town Roads other than those which will be immediately improved with T. R. A. Funds, or take any action relating thereto.

23. To see if the Town will vote to observe, during the month of August 1956, the Anniversary of Old Home Week, and to raise and appropriate a sum of \$25.00 therefore, or take any action relating thereto.

24. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$200.00 for extending the Library room, or take any action relating thereto.

25. To see if the Town will raise and appropri-

ate the sum of \$300.00 as its share of the Maintenance Fund of the Monadnock Community Hospital, or take any action relating thereto.

26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$600.00 for the salaries of the Selectmen. This article to be considered in conjunction with the article on Town Charges; or take any action relating thereto.

27. To see if the Town will vote to allow any property owner to call the nearest fire department, in case of fire, or take any action relating thereto.

28. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to appoint a budget committee of five members, three to constitute a quorum, this committee to be geographically chosen and to consist of two women and three men, or take any action relating thereto.

29. To see if the Town will vote to limit hunting to residents of this Town only, or take any action relating thereto.

30. To see if the Town will vote to restrict building lots to a minimum of one acre, or take any action relating thereto.

31. To see if the Town will instruct the Selectmen not to exceed any appropriation by more than 10%, except by vote of a special Town Meeting, or take any action relating thereto.

32. To see if the Town will vote to establish a Financial Advisory Committee of three resident property owners to be appointed by the Selectmen for three year terms; excepting only this year

(1956) appointments to be made for one, two and three years respectively. Such a Board to be advisory in nature, but charged with the responsibility of immediate and future planning with regard to the Town's financial problems, suggesting specific programs of action to the Selectmen, and to the Town at Town Meetings; or take any action relating thereto.

33. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate a sum not exceeding \$100.00 for the purpose of surveying Town owned land (with State and County aid) to establish Town forests, administered by the Selectmen so that the Town may realize any income presently or in the future, or take any action relating thereto.

34. To see if the Town will vote to establish a Planning Board of five members with duties as set forth in Sections 1-15, Chapter 36, New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, 1955, to make a study of the Town's development and report to the Town appropriate recommendations for the promotion and maintenance of the Town's best development. The Board members shall consist of one Selectman and four other citizens appointed by the Selectmen, as provided in Sections 1-15, Chapter 36, New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, 1955; or take any action relating thereto.

35. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to appoint an Inspector of Buildings who shall hold office for a term of one year, and by vote to fix and regulate his compensation as authorized by Section 1, Chapter 156, New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, 1955, or take any action relating thereto.

36. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following Building Regulations as authorized under Sections 2-5 inclusive, Chapter 156, New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, 1955:

Building Regulations Suggested for Town Adoption

1. The Inspector of Buildings shall be appointed by the Selectmen annually and shall be the administrative officer of this ordinance. He shall receive applications and fees for the erection or alteration of buildings and electric wiring thereof as provided in this ordinance, shall keep complete records of all applications and his action on the applications; promptly survey and inspect all buildings, alterations, or uses proposed, accept and deposit with the Town Treasurer all fees collected by him under this ordinance, and may issue permits for erection, alteration, or remodeling of all buildings, and the use of land, if in his opinion the proposal complies with the law of the State, this ordinance and other town ordinances and by-laws, provided that in any instance where license or permit fees for uses are required his permit shall constitute only an approval on which the proper authority may issue a license on payment of required fees; any other duties prescribed by law, shall act in cooperation with the fire warden in any matter in which their duties as prescribed by law may coincide or conflict; and shall take such action in the enforcement of this ordinance as may be directed by the Selectmen.

2. No building construction shall be started; no alterations of existing buildings of an estimated cost of more than \$200 undertaken, and no building shall be put to any different use than on the day of enactment of this ordinance until a permit thereof has been issued under the terms of this ordinance.

3. No application for a permit required by this ordinance shall receive action by the Building Inspector unless made in writing. All applications for a permit to build, construct, alter or remodel any building shall be accompanied by a sketch or plan of the proposed building or alterations, and a statement of its intended use when built, constructed, altered or remodeled. A fee of one dollar shall be paid for all permits issued. A building permit shall become void unless operations are commenced within six (6) months from date of approval, unless such time is extended by the building official.

4. Upon receiving such application the Building Inspector shall promptly take such action as may be indicated in the way of investigation or public hearings to acquaint himself with the merits of the application. He may, without judging the application on its merits, refer the application to the Board of Adjustment. If, however, he finds the proposed building, alteration, or use of buildings to conform with the law and this ordinance he may at once issue the permit in writing over his signature. If he finds the proposal in any conflict with the law or this ordinance he shall fix whatever restrictions or conditions on the proposed construction or use as may be in his best judgment, right and proper, or for reasonable cause refuse the permit.

5. No building or structure shall be erected, altered, rebuilt, substantially repaired, or remodeled unless in compliance with the following:

a. **Commercial building.** No building intended or designed to be used for industrial, commercial, or other public use shall be erected, altered, or used for any purpose which does not provide non-combustible walls and partitions between its component parts.

b. **Exits.** No building intended or designed for any public use or congregation of people shall be erected, altered, or used for any purpose which does not provide adequate exits, as described in Chapter 176, Revised Laws of New Hampshire and Chapter 153, Laws of 1943, and in the regulations of the State Department of Health. (1)

c. **Garages.** No public garage for the storage of five or more automobiles, or having any service or repair enterprises connected therewith shall be erected, altered, or enlarged unless the building is so constructed, or the proposed alterations, enlargements or extensions shall be of slow-burning or non-combustible material, except that use of automatic sprinklers may obviate the use of such slow-burning or non-combustible materials.

d. **Roofs.** No roof of any building shall be covered or recovered in whole or in part save with non-combustible or fire resistant roofing materials.

e. **Fire-stops.** No building of wood or other combustible material shall be erected, altered, remodeled, or enlarged without providing fire-stops in every combustible wall or partition, at every floor and between floor joints at every partition.

f. **Chimney construction.** No chimney shall be built, erected, or altered below the roof unless containing a tile or brick lining and with an iron clean-out door at or near its base, and shall extend at least three feet above the roof. No chimney shall be built, erected, or altered below the roof having combustible materials within one inch of the chimney and no chimney shall have its base resting upon any floor or beam of combustible material.

g. **Thimbles.** No wall paper or other combustible material shall be laid over any thimble or thimble hole in any chimney.

h. Smoke pipes. No smoke pipes shall be installed or erected so as to be within twelve inches of any combustible floor or ceiling, unless amply protected with non-combustible material. No smoke pipe shall be installed or erected which passes into or through partitions or walls of combustible material, except when guarded by a double collar of metal with air space of at least five inches, or by at least five inches of brick or other non-combustible material between the pipe and the combustible material.

i. Electric wiring. All electrical wiring shall conform with approved methods and practices for safety to life and property. Compliance with the National Electrical Code, as published by the National Board of Underwriters, shall be prima facie evidence of such approved methods and practices.

(1) See pamphlet published by New Hampshire State Department of Health, **Standards Relating to Fire Escapes and Fire Exits.**

j. Foundations. All structures shall be set on solid foundations of cement, brick, stone or other acceptable masonry except that in special cases where buildings are to be used for accessory use the Building Inspector may waive the requirements of this section and permit the use of wood, metal or masonry piers.

k. Minimum building area. Every dwelling unit to be used by a single family shall have a minimum ground floor area of five hundred square feet.

l. Outside walls shall be constructed of material commonly used for outside construction and materials customarily painted shall be painted.

m. Sewerage. All dwellings and all commercial, public or industrial buildings shall be connected to the public sewer system when available. When a

public system is not available a private sewage disposal system is required. The type, size, and construction of all septic tanks and drainage fields shall be approved by the town health officer.

n. **Exceptions.** The construction of small accessory buildings not used for living purposes, together with minor alterations, repairs and general upkeep of existing buildings shall be exempt from the provisions of this Ordinance.

6. **Board of Adjustment.** The Selectmen shall appoint a Board of Adjustment of five members, one of whom may be a member of the Planning Board, said Board of Adjustment to serve without compensation. The Board of Adjustment shall have authority to allow slight variances from the specific terms of this Ordinance, where it can be shown that unnecessary hardship would otherwise result.

NOTE: Where a Board of Adjustment exists by reason of action for zoning, the first sentence should be deleted from this section.

7. **Amendment.** This Ordinance may be amended by a majority vote of any legal town meeting when such amendment is published in the warrant calling for the meeting.

8. **Enforcement.** Upon any well-founded information that this Ordinance is being violated, the Selectmen shall, on their own initiative, take immediate steps to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance by seeking an injunction in the Superior Court or by any other appropriate legal action. Whoever violates any of the provisions of the above regulations shall be punished upon conviction by a fine not exceeding ten dollars for each day of each violation.

9. Takes effect. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

10. Conflicting provisions. Whenever the regulations made under the authority hereof differ from those described by any statute, ordinance, or other regulations, that provision which imposes the greater restriction or the higher standard shall govern.

11. Validity. If any section, clause, provision, portion, or phrase of this ordinance shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent authority such holdings shall not affect, impair or invalidate any other section, clause, provision, portion, or phrase of this Ordinance.

37. To hear the reports of Agents, Auditors, Committees and Officers, heretofore chosen, and pass any vote relating thereto.

Given under our hands and seal, this 27th day of February in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-six.

FORREST A. CAMERON
RAYMOND C. AKERMAN
THOMAS B. CALKIN

Selectmen of Mason

A true copy of Warrant—Attest:

FORREST A. CAMERON
RAYMOND C. AKERMAN
THOMAS B. CALKIN

Selectmen of Mason

BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF MASON

Estimates of Revenue and Expenditures for the Ensuing year January 1, 1956, to December 31, 1956. Compared with Estimated and Actual Revenue, Appropriations and Expenditures of the Previous Year January 1, 1955 to December 31, 1955

Sources of Revenue	Estimated Revenue Previous Year 1955	Actual Revenue Previous Year 1955	Estimated Revenue Ensuing Year 1956
From State:			
Interest & dividends tax	\$ 1,202.43	\$ 1,037.63	\$ 1,037.63
Railroad tax	347.14	348.07	175.05
Savings bank tax	238.28	219.04	110.00
Reimbursement a/c state forest lands	61.53	79.28	79.28
Reimbursement a/c ex- emption of growing wood & timber	5,151.24	2,575.62	5,151.24
For fighting forest fires		3.00	176.01
Reimbursement a/c old age assistance	125.00		375.00
Payment advance T.R.A.	3,863.16	3,915.71	3,915.71
From Local Sources Except Taxes:			
Dog licenses	125.00	114.50	125.00
Filing fees	4.00	5.00	5.00
Rent of town hall and other buildings	50.00	50.00	50.00
Interest received on tax- es & deposits		165.27	175.00
Income of departments:			
Highway, including rental of equipment	405.00	295.00	260.00
Head tax col. fee (town share)	43.20	18.30	20.00
Donation Grange town hall		50.00	
Donation cemetery Mrs. Secor		10.00	
Motor vehicle permit fees	1,500.00	1,475.90	1,500.00
Sale of town property	12.92	12.92	
From Local Taxes Other than Property Taxes:			

Poll taxes—regular @ \$2	312.00	343.00	350.00
<hr/>			
Total Revenues from All Sources except Property Taxes			13,504.92
Amt. to be raised by Prop. Taxes			26,701.14
<hr/>			
TOTAL REVENUES			\$40,206.06

BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF MASON

Purposes of Expenditures	Ap'ropriations Previous Year 1955	Actual Exp'ditures Previous Year 1955	Estimated Exp'ditures Ensuing Year 1956
<hr/>			
CURRENT MAINTENANCE EXPENSES:			
General Government:			
Town officers' salaries	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,612.07	\$ 1,500.00
Town officers' expenses	800.00	1,046.01	800.00
Election and registration expenses	50.00	12.40	250.00
Expenses town hall & other town bldgs.	600.00	543.88	600.00
Protection of Persons and Property:			
Police department	100.00	18.82	100.00
Fire department	150.00	355.25	150.00
Moth exterm.—blister rust & care of trees	100.00	93.00	100.00
Insurance—workman's comp.	250.00	294.90	300.00
Health:			
Health department, including hospitals	50.00		350.00
Town dump and garbage removal	75.00	150.00	75.00
Highways and Bridges:			
Special tar	2,500.00	2,538.40)	1,000.00
Special gravel	1,000.00	1,027.60)	500.00
Town maint'ance: summer	2,000.00	2,101.01)	2,500.00
Town maintenance: winter	2,000.00	2,202.86	2,000.00
Street lighting	225.00	227.87	225.00
General expenses of high-			

BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF MASON

Purposes of Expenditures	Ap'priations Previous Year 1955	Actual Exp'ditures Previous Year 1955	Estimated Exp'ditures Ensuing Year 1956
way department	500.00	603.34	500.00
Town road aid	587.36	587.36	587.36
Libraries	200.00	200.00	200.00
Public Welfare:			
Town poor	300.00	289.62	300.00
Old age assistance	500.00	331.17	500.00
Patriotic Purposes:			
War memorial	500.00		
Memorial day and veter- ans associations	100.00	88.75	100.00
Aid to soldiers & their families	500.00		500.00
Recreation:			
Old Home day	25.00	25.00	25.00
Parks & playgrounds, incl. band concerts	150.00	23.00	150.00
Public Service Enterprises:			
Cemeteries	250.00	250.00	250.00
Unclassified:			
Damages & legal expenses, incl. dog damage			100.00
Advertising & regional associations	34.00	34.00	34.00
Employees' retirement & social security	100.00	Town 80.13) Emp. 80.12)	100.00
Interest:			
On long term notes & bonds	329.00	499.31	500.00
Payment on Principal of Debt:			
Long term notes		4,442.63	4,442.63
Payments to Other Governmental Divisions:			
County taxes	1,700.72	2,079.63	2,079.63
School taxes	16,280.05	16,185.52	19,387.44
Total expenditures			\$40,206.00

*Long Term Notes 3½ years		\$14,621.40
(5 Miles Hard Surface Road)		
State Share	Total T.R.A. allotment	\$12,698.31
Town Share	Total T.R.A. appropriation	1,923.09
		<hr/>
		\$14,621.40

Serial Notes, Road Construction, 2¼%			
	Total	State Share	Town Share
July 1, 1955 (Paid)	\$ 4,442.63	\$ 3,863.17	\$ 579.46
July 1, 1956	4,442.63	3,863.17	579.46
July 1, 1957	4,442.63	3,863.17	579.46
July 1, 1958	1,293.51	1,108.80	184.71
	<hr/>		
	\$14,621.40	\$12,698.31	\$ 1,923.09

During 1958 \$3,728.58 Balance due to Town from T.R.A.
funds after note is paid

These notes, which represent the yearly appropriations that have been made regularly in the past by both the Town and State actually involve no additional indebtedness, appropriations or money, but rather are a borrowing in advance—authorized by the State—against these T.R.A. allotments. The only additional financial cost to the Town is the interest, 2¼%—\$136.03 yearly average.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1955

Title of Appropriations	Appropriation	Receipts & Reimbursement	Total Amount Available	Expenditures	Unexpended Balance	Overdrafts
Town Officers' Salaries	\$ 1,500.00	\$	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,612.07	\$	\$ 112.07
Town Officers' Expenses	800.00		800.00	1,046.01		246.01
Election and Registration	50.00		50.00	12.40	37.60	
Town Hall and Other Buildings	600.00	(a) 50.00 (b) 50.00				
Police Department	100.00		700.00	543.88	156.12	
Fire Department	150.00	(c) 3.00	100.00	18.82	81.18	
Combating Dutch Elm Disease	100.00		153.00	355.25		202.25
Workman's Insurance	250.00		100.00	93.00	7.00	
Health Department	50.00		250.00	294.90		44.90
Town Dump	75.00	(d) 75.00	50.00	50.00 (g)	50.00	
Summer Roads	2,000.00	(e) 2,567.16	150.00	150.00		
Special Tar	2,500.00		4,567.16	4,668.17		101.01
Special Gravel	1,000.00		2,500.00	2,538.40		38.40
Winter Roads	2,000.00		1,000.00	1,027.60		27.60
Street Lighting	225.00		2,000.00	2,202.86		202.86
General Expense of Highway Dept.	500.00		225.00	227.87		2.87
Town Road Aid	587.36		500.00	603.34		103.34
Library	200.00		587.36	587.36		
Town Poor	300.00	(f) 152.20	200.00	200.00		
Old Age Assistance	500.00		452.00	289.62	162.38	
War Memorial	500.00		500.00	331.17	168.83	
			500.00		500.00	

Memorial Day	100.00	100.00	88.75	11.25
Aid to Soldiers and Their Families	500.00	500.00		500.00
Old Home Day	25.00	25.00	25.00	
Parks and Playgrounds	150.00	150.00	23.00	127.00
Cemeteries	250.00	250.00	250.00	
Monadnock Region Ass'n	34.00	34.00	34.00	
Employees Ret. Act (Soc. Sec.)	100.00	100.00	80.13	19.87
Interest	429.00	429.00	499.31	70.31
County Tax	1,700.72	1,700.72	2,079.63	378.91

Total	\$17,276.08	\$ 2,897.16	\$20,173.24	\$19,932.54	\$ 1,821.23	\$ 1,530.53
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(a) Town Hall Rent	(e) Class V State Aid
(b) Grange Donation to Hall	(f) Elliott Estate
(c) State Refund	(g) Paid January 1955
(d) 1954, Paid January 1955	

SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY

Town Hall, land & buildings	\$ 8,000.00
Town Hall, furniture & equipment	1,000.00
Library, furniture & equipment	1,000.00
Fire Department, equipment	350.00
Highway Department, equipment	5,950.00
Parks and Playgrounds	500.00
Schools, lands & buildings	8,000.00
Schools, equipment	1,000.00
All Other Lands owned by Town	4,515.00
	<hr/> \$30,315.00

ASSETS

Cash on Hand	\$ 3,037.70
Due from State, Timber Tax	2,575.62
Bills due Town, Bulldozer rental	160.00
Uncollected Taxes, Levy of 1955	4,273.37
Uncollected Poll Taxes	50.00
Uncollected Head Taxes	155.00
Unredeemed Taxes	541.39
	<hr/>
Total Assets	10,793.08
Excess of Liabilities	10,223.82
	<hr/>
Total	\$21,016.90

LIABILITIES

Accounts Owed by the Town:	
Bills outstanding—Note	\$ 2,000.00
Over-deposited by Treasurer	3.08
Head Taxes, uncollected (1954), due State	155.00
Balance due Schools	8,680.05
Long Term Notes Outstanding—Roads	10,178.77
	<hr/>
Total Liabilities	\$21,016.90

APPROPRIATIONS — 1955

Town Officers' Salaries	\$ 1,500.00
Town Officers' Expenses	800.00
Election and Registration	50.00
Town Hall and Other Buildings	600.00

Police Department	100.00
Fire Department	150.00
Dutch Elm	100.00
Insurance (Workman's)	250.00
Health Department	50.00
Town Dump	75.00
Summer Roads	2,000.00
Special Tar	2,500.00
Special Gravel	1,000.00
Winter Roads	2,000.00
Street Lighting	225.00
General Expenses Highway Dept.	500.00
Town Road Aid	587.36
Library	200.00
Town Poor	300.00
Old Age Assistance	500.00
War Memorial	100.00
Memorial Day	500.00
Aid to Soldiers	500.00
Old Home Day	25.00
Parks and Playgrounds	150.00
Cemeteries	250.00
Monadnock Region Assn.	34.00
Social Security	100.00
Interest	429.00
County Taxes	1,700.72
School	16,280.05
Total	\$33,556.13

Less Estimated Revenue	
Interest and Dividends Tax	\$ 1,037.63
Railroad Tax	184.03
Savings Bank Tax	119.41
Reimbursement a/c State & Federal Lands	61.47
Reimbursement a/c Exemption Growing Wood & Timber	3,499.72
Bounties	5.00
Reimbursement a/c Old Age Assistance	432.30
Dog Licenses	115.00
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	1,300.00
Rent of Town Property	390.00
Head Tax Collector's Fee	18.80

Reimbursement Forest Fires	65.35
Total Revenue and Credits	<u>\$ 7,228.71</u>
Plus Overlay	<u>\$26,327.42</u> 337.16
Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation	<u>\$26,664.58</u>
Less Poll Taxes @ \$2.00	300.00
Amount to be Raised by Property Tax on which Tax Rate is Figured	<u>\$26,364.58</u>
Tax Rate Approved by Tax Commission \$7.60/\$100.00 of Valuation	
Actual Revenue	
Interest and Dividends Tax	\$1,037.63
Railroad Tax 1954-55	348.07
Savings Bank Tax 1954-55	219.04
Reimbursement a/c State & Federal Lands	79.28
Reimbursement a/c Exemption Growing Wood & Timber	2,575.62
Fighting Forest Fires	3.00
Dog Licenses	114.50
Filing Fees	5.00
Rent of Town Property (Town Hall—Grange) (Bulldozer)	50.00 295.00
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	1,475.90
Gifts (Town Hall)	50.00
(Cemetery)	10.00
Town Poor Reimbursement	152.00
Timber Cut Deposit	83.60
Head Tax Collector's Fee	18.50
	<u>\$ 7,264.14</u>

SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION

Land and Buildings	\$332,851.00
Electric Plants	30,737.00
Horses (6)	420.00
Cows (61)	5,748.00
Neat Stock (4)	224.00

Hogs (4)	60.00
Fowl (825)	445.00
Portable Mills	500.00
Fur Bearing Animals (24)	50.00
Road Building Machinery (2)	475.00
Wood and Lumber	1,026.75
Gas Tanks and Pumps (17)	1,775.00
Stock in Trade	1,540.00
Mills and Machinery	200.00
	<hr/>
Total Valuation	376,051.75
Less Soldiers' Exemptions	27,800.00
	<hr/>
Net Valuation on which Tax Rate is Computed	348,251.75

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

Filing Fees	\$ 5.00
Automobile Permits (212)	1,475.90
Dog Licenses:	
43 Males @ \$2.00	\$ 86.00
5 Females @ \$5.00	25.00
7 Penalties @ .50	3.50
	<hr/>
	114.50
	<hr/>
Total	\$1,595.40

REPORT OF TAX COLLECTOR

Levy of 1955

Property Taxes Committed to Collector	\$26,453.07
Poll Taxes Committed to Collector	300.00
Interest	3.15
	<hr/>
Total Debits	\$26,756.22
Property Taxes Remitted to Treas.	\$21,710.15
Poll Taxes Remitted to Treasurer	244.00
Interest	3.15
	<hr/>
Total Remitted to Treasurer	\$21,957.30
Discount	318.31

Uncollected Property Taxes	\$ 4,273.37
Uncollected Poll Taxes	50.00
Abatements, Property Taxes	151.24
Abatements, Poll Taxes	6.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 4,480.61

Total Credits	<hr/>	\$26,756.22
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Levy of 1954

Uncollected Taxes as of January 1, 1955:	
Property Taxes	\$ 3,282.62
Poll Taxes	64.00
Interest Collected	105.45
Costs	56.65
	<hr/>

Total Debits	<hr/>	\$ 3,508.72
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Remitted to Treasurer during 1955:

Property Taxes	\$ 3,215.65
Poll Taxes	54.00
Interest	105.45
Costs	56.65
Abatements	76.97

Total Credits	<hr/>	\$ 3,508.72
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Levy of 1953

Remitted to Treasurer:

Penalty	\$.50
Interest	.02

Total	<hr/>	\$.52
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STATE HEAD TAX

Levy of 1955

Original Warrant	\$ 940.00
Penalties Collected	3.50

Total Debits	<hr/>	\$ 943.50
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Remitted to Treasurer:

Head Taxes	\$ 770.00
Penalties	3.50
Abatements	15.00

Uncollected Head Taxes as per

Collector's List	155.00	
Total Credits		\$ 943.50
Levy of 1954		
Uncollected Head Taxes as of January 1, 1955:		
Uncollected		\$ 175.00
Penalties		17.50
Total Debits		\$ 192.50
Remitted to Treasurer:		
Head Taxes	\$ 145.00	
Penalties	14.50	
Abatements	27.50	
1 Head Tax (included in Tax Sale)	5.50	
Total Credits		\$ 192.50

TAX SALES REDEEMED

Levy	Redeemed by	Prop.	Int.	Fee	Total
1953	Curtis Dunn	32.45	.91	.25	33.61
	Eino Helstein	169.44	11.90	.25	181.59
1954	N. H. State D.P.W.	59.63			
	N. H. State D.P.W.	1.55	.89	.25	62.32
	Archibald Eaton	10.09	.08	.25	10.42
	Robert and Alice Trempe	106.01	1.79	.25	108.05
	Samuel and Loretta Bowen	96.73	1.92	.25	98.90
	Total				494.89

TAXES BOUGHT BY TOWN

Levy	Property Listed to	Taxes	Costs	Int.
1954	Robert and Alice Trempe	97.35	3.90	4.76
	Paul Richenburg	16.05	3.90	.78
	Violet Smith	35.40	3.90	1.72
	Clark Lumber Co.	5.90	3.90	.52
	Lempe Johnson	4.72	3.90	.25
	Orvan Elliott	37.07	3.90	1.57
	Eino Helstein	143.31	3.90	7.01
	Samuel and Loretta			

Bowen	88.50	3.90	4.33
Charles Emerson	54.58	3.90	2.70
Total			\$ 541.39

REPORT OF TOWN TREASURER

Balance on Hand Dec. 1, 1954	\$ 2,533.54
Received from Tax Collector	26,817.46
Received from Town Clerk	1,595.40
Received from Selectmen	11,399.03
Short Term Loans	12,000.00
Over-Deposit by Treasurer	3.08

Total Cash Received 1955	\$54,348.51
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Selectmen's Orders Paid	51,310.73
Bank Statement Balance @ Dec. 31, 1955	3,037.78
Less Over-deposit by Treasurer	3.08
Actual Cash Balance @ Dec. 31, 1955	\$ 3,034.70

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

Town Officers' Salaries	\$ 1,612.07
Town Officers' Expenses	1,046.01
Election and Registration	12.40
Town Hall and Other Buildings	543.88
Police Department	18.82
Fire Department	355.25
Bounties	5.00
Town Dump	150.00
Moth Extermination—Dutch Elm	93.00
Insurance (Workman's)	294.90
Summer Roads	4,668.17
Winter Roads	2,202.86
Special Appropriation—Gravel	1,027.60
Special Appropriation—Tar	2,538.40
Street Lighting	227.87
General Expenses Highway Department	603.34
Library	200.00
Old Age Assistance	331.17
Town Poor	289.62
Memorial Day	88.75
Old Home Day	25.00

Parks and Playgrounds	23.00
Cemeteries	250.00
Advertising & Regional Associations	34.00
Taxes Bought by Town	541.39
Fees	242.63
Interest	499.31
Social Security	160.25
Head Tax	413.00
Long Term Loans—Roads	14,442.63
Tax Abatements	105.26
County Tax	2,079.63
Schools	16,185.52
Total	<hr/> \$51,310.73

Town Officers' Salaries

Forrest A. Cameron, Selectman	\$ 440.36
Raymond C. Akerman, Selectman	378.42
Thomas B. Calkin, Selectman	354.20
Charles F. H. Crathern, Clerk & Treasurer	189.39
Herman O. Schulze, Tax Collector	200.00
Conray Wharff, Chairman, Trustee of Trust Funds	20.00
Toivo Kivimaki, Auditor	29.70
Total	<hr/> \$ 1,612.07

Town Officers' Expenses

N. H. Assessors' Assn.	\$ 3.00
Edson C. Eastman	20.52
Harriet West	4.40
Forrest A. Cameron	43.65
T. A. Eaton, Insurance	172.20
Toivo Kivimaki	1.40
Donat Corriveau	.25
Herman Schulze	69.65
Thomas Calkin	33.50
Raymond Akerman	62.50
Charles Crathern	93.10
Times-Free Press (Town Report)	448.83
U. S. Auto Guide	7.50
Brown, Saltmarsh	4.41
Philip Morris	59.95
Ida M. Horner	3.00
Sargent Bros.	14.85

Mason Village Savings Bank	3.30
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Total	\$ 1,046.01
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Town Hall and Other Buildings

Greenville Electric Lighting Co.	\$ 60.76
Central Hardware	8.09
T. A. Eaton, Insurance	74.84
Thomas Calkin, Cordwood	45.00
Guy F. Washburn, Janitor Service	166.52
Raymond Akerman, Repairs	69.57
Acme Supply Co.	14.08
Derby and Little	12.17
Webber Lumber Co.	5.75
Greenville Grain Co.	32.85
Wilton School District	36.25
Conray G. Wharff, Labor	18.00

Total	\$ 543.88
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Election and Registration

Guy F. Washburn, Supervisor	\$ 12.40
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General Expense Highway Department

Derby and Little, Inc.	\$ 10.82
Powell Hardware	2.24
R. C. Hazelton Co.	88.34
Huntley Road Rake Co.	40.00
Greenville Auto Service	2.89
Harold Miller	3.50
Raymond Akerman	7.00
Laitala's Garage	302.82
Greenville Electric Lighting Co.	6.00
T. A. Eaton Agency	85.15
Worcester General Repair Co.	54.58

Total	\$ 603.34
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Winter Roads

H. Miller, Truck	\$ 768.90
I. Spear, Labor	124.00
R. Akerman, Labor	7.00
C. Valyou, Labor	222.00
A. Spear, Labor	123.00
C. Bullard, Labor	3.00

R. L. Robichaud, Sand	219.20
T. Calkin, Truck	264.00
Greenville Grain Co., Salt	158.00
W. Hall, Truck and Plow	96.00
C. Barnes, Labor	3.00
O. Ilomaki, Tractor	42.00
B. Grover, Labor	7.00
B. Cleveland, Labor	45.00
L. Brown, Labor	28.00
E. Helstein, Truck	97.20

Total	\$ 2,207.30
Less Social Security	4.44
Total	\$ 2,202.86

Summer Roads

H. Miller, Truck, Grader & Loader	\$ 2,247.60
C. Valyou, Labor	476.00
R. L. Robichaud, Gravel	366.00
T. Kivimaki, Gravel	144.00
H. Spear, Labor	32.00
P. Trempe, Labor	36.00
I. Spear, Labor	286.00
A. Spear, Labor	57.00
New England Culvert Co.	217.32
C. Eaton	18.00
E. Helstein, Mowing Brush	225.00
P. J. Keating Co.	78.66
W. Wildes	113.00
Petrometal Ind. Reflects Co.	62.13
R. C. Hazelton Co., Pipe	240.00
A. Williams, Labor	24.00
W. Hamel	30.00
B. Cleveland, Labor	27.00

Total	\$ 4,679.71
Less Social Security	11.54
Total	\$ 4,668.17

Tar

H. Miller, Truck	\$ 148.50
C. Valyou	45.00
R. Akerman	36.00
W. Wildes	36.00
A. Williams	36.00

C. Eaton, Truck	156.50
E. Bullard, Truck	102.30
Laitala's Garage	18.30
New England Asphalt & Tar Co.	1,959.80

Total	\$ 2,538.40
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Gravel and Drainage

H. Miller, Truck	\$ 471.90
C. Valyou, Labor	143.00
E. Elliott, Shovel	216.00
I. Spear, Labor	45.00
C. Eaton, Truck	13.50
T. Kivimaki, 280 yds. Gravel @ \$.25	70.00
R. L. Robichaud, 140 yds. Gravel & \$.50	70.00

Total	\$1,029.40
Less Social Security	1.80
Total	\$ 1,027.60

Police Department

Forrest Cameron, Chief	\$ 12.82
Irving Spear, Special	6.00

Total	\$ 18.82
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Town Poor

Fred Nelson	\$ 250.00
Conray G. Wharff	25.00
Forrest Cameron	14.62

Total	\$ 289.62
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Parks and Playgrounds

Harold Forrest	\$ 10.00
Porter Washburn	6.00
Raymond Akerman	7.00

Total	\$ 23.00
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Fire Department

Labor	\$ 139.16
James Bell, Wardens' Meeting	4.35
Raymond Akerman	3.23
Greenville Fire Department	117.00
Townsend Fire Department	54.00

Town of New Ipswich	37.51
Total	\$ 355.25
Library	
Lena Miller	\$ 200.00
Street Lighting	
Greenville Electric Lighting Co.	\$ 227.87
Bounties	
William Wildes, 6 Porcupines	\$ 3.00
Samuel Bowen, 2 Porcupines	1.00
Herman Schulze, 1 Porcupine	.50
Chester Minot, 1 Porcupine	.50
Total	\$ 5.00
Town Dump	
Greenville, Town of (2 years)	\$ 150.00
Moth Extermination—Dutch Elm	
F. A. Bartlett Tree Expert Co.	\$ 93.00
Workman's Insurance	
T. A. Eaton Agency	\$ 294.90
Old Age Assistance	
Welfare Department, State of New Hampshire	\$ 331.17
Memorial Day	
George S. Talcott	\$ 50.00
Kenneth Langdell	25.00
Carswell Hawthorne, Inc.	13.75
Total	\$ 88.75
Old Home Day	
Charles Crathern, Chairman	\$ 25.00
Cemteries	
Conray G. Wharff	\$ 250.00
Advertising and Regional Associations	
Monadnock Region Association	\$ 34.00
Taxes Bought by Town	
Herman O. Schulze, Tax Collector	\$ 541.39

Fees	
Charles F. H. Crathern	\$ 114.91
Herman O. Schulze	110.05
Edward Bourassa	.50
Donat Corriveau	17.17
Total	\$ 242.63
Interest	
Wilton National Bank	\$ 499.31
Social Security	
N. H. State Treasurer	\$ 160.25
Head Tax	
N. H. State Treasurer	\$ 413.00
Temporary Loans	
Wilton National Bank:	
Long Term	\$ 4,442.63
Short Term	10,000.00
Total	\$ 14,442.63
County Tax	
County Treasurer	\$ 2,079.63
Schools	
Mildred Wharff, Treasurer	\$ 16,185.52

REPORT OF TOWN TRUSTEES

1955

By C. G. Wharff, Treasurer

Boynton Common School Fund

Character of Investments	
Dartmouth Savings Bank	\$ 2,000.00
Mason Village Savings Bank	4,956.23
Keene Savings Bank	4,106.84
Total	\$ 11,063.07
Receipts (Interest)	
Dartmouth Savings Bank	\$ 85.00

Mason Village Savings Bank	148.68
Keene Savings Bank	123.18
Total	\$ 356.86
Payments	
Mildred Wharff, School District Treas.	\$ 356.86
Stearns Public School Bequest	
Character of Investments	
Mason Village Savings Bank	\$ 5,469.36
Government Bond	5,000.00
Total	\$ 10,469.36
Receipts (Interest)	
Mason Village Savings Bank	\$ 164.06
Government Bond	125.00
Total	\$ 289.06
Payments	
Mildred Wharff, School District Treas.	\$ 289.06
Perpetual Care Fund (Cemeteries)	
Character of Investment	\$ 4,764.33
Receipts	
T. A. Eaton	\$ 200.00
Mason Village Savings Bank (Int.)	139.77
Total	\$ 339.77
Payments	
Mason Village Savings Bank	\$ 200.00
C. G. Wharff, Treas.	
Cemetery Trustees	139.77
	\$ 339.77

REPORT OF CEMETERY TRUSTEES

1955

By C. G. Wharff, Treasurer

Receipts	
Cash on Hand	\$ 16.30

T. A. Eaton for Perpetual Care	200.00
Town Appropriation	250.00

Total	\$ 466.30
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Payments

Perpetual Care Fund	\$ 200.00
A. Spear, Labor	54.00
F. Newell, Labor	47.00
H. Miller, Loam	10.00
C. G. Wharff, Labor	44.00
C. G. Wharff, Gasoline	1.50
W. Wildes, Labor	15.00
P. Washburn, Labor	28.00
Rogers Rental, Mowers	10.00
R. Akerman, Truck	4.00

Total	\$ 413.50
Cash on Hand	52.80

Total	\$ 466.30
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Perpetual Care

Receipts

Cash on Hand	\$ 83.09
Perpetual Care Fund	139.77

Total	\$ 222.86
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Payments

F. Newell, Labor	\$ 27.00
R. Akerman, Labor	3.00
H. Miller, Loam	25.00
C. G. Wharff, Labor	94.00

Total	\$ 149.00
Cash on Hand	73.86

Total	\$ 222.86
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**REPORT OF
TREASURER OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

Receipts

Balance from last year	\$ 62.85
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Received from Town Approp.	200.00	
Received from books	17.96	
		\$ 280.81

Expenditures

Library Book House	\$ 88.83	
Elsie Haley, Librarian	5.50	
T. A. Eaton, Insurance	25.00	
Frank Newell, Janitor	19.50	
Popular Mechanics—Subscription—3 yrs.	8.00	
Mason Valley Gift Shop—Book	6.50	
Gaylord Bros.—Supplies	13.28	
Elizabeth Jones—Light Fixture,		
Book, Supplies	53.78	
Mason Congregational Church—Elec.	5.00	
		\$ 225.39
Balance on Hand		\$ 55.42

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE MASON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Library has enjoyed an interesting year of growth toward assuming its responsibility as an integral part of the educational system and a recognized point of coordination for home, church, and school. Our emphasis has been on the importance of developing a substantial reading program, supplementing and supporting the school curriculum, taking over during the summer, and establishing reading habits for nourishing and sustaining the vital interests of each boy and girl. We have been in close association with the School. The teachers have visited the Library regularly, borrowing books related to their projects, and consulting with us. We, likewise, have visited the School participating in various activities. The results of this association have been most heartening. There has been a marked change both in the quantity and the quality of reading for all ages. We have arranged a young people's corner which facilitates circulation of their books and encourages wider choice and a more inclusive reading diet. We have endeavored to make the Library more attractive with bright curtains and by painting the furniture, and

we have installed a fluorescent fixture for better light. We have circulated some five hundred books from the Bookmobile and seventy-five from the State Library in Concord. We have happily acquired one hundred fifty-eight books for our collection, sixty-five of which were purchased from the town fund. The remaining ninety-three were given. With a few exceptions due to holidays the Library has been open every Friday afternoon throughout the year. We have charged out between fifty and seventy-five books each week. A weekly story hour was held all summer. The Church, to supplement its summer Vacation Bible School, borrowed several dozen books which we were pleased to be able to supply. In November, Book Week was celebrated for the first time in Mason with a play: **"The Bookmobile Comes to Mason,"** under the combined auspices of the School and the Library. The resulting stimulation to more and better reading was almost overwhelming! During the pre-Christmas season stories were told and read in the School, books relevant to Christmas placed in the rooms.

We look forward to further development of our reading program for youngsters during the coming year, and also to increased service to adults. Our Library does not stand alone but is part of a network of useable facilities. Books not available from our shelves may be borrowed from or through the State Library or the Bookmobile. We cordially invite you to visit the Library and to make known to us your interests.

We warmly thank the following donors of books: Mrs. Ray Akerman, Mrs. Harry Baker, Mrs. Marita Ott, Mr. Donald Perry, Miss Margaretta Voorhees — of Mason; Mrs. William A. Lord, Librarian of Frankestown, Miss Norma R. Fryatt of The Horn Book, Boston, and Miss Virginia Haviland of the Boston Public Library Children's Room. We are grateful to the following authors for autographed copies of their current books: Gladys L. Adshead, C. W. Anderson, Elizabeth Orton Jones, Elizabeth Yates. We have also been given two subscriptions to children's magazines: **Treasure Trails**, through the kindness of its editor, Marjorie Barrows, and **Child Life**. **The Townsend Times** continues to come regularly by courtesy of its publishers. Copies of periodicals such as **Nature Magazine**, **The National Geographic**, **Arizona Highways**, have been

presented by thoughtful friends. We wish to express our appreciation to Mr. Harry Baker for the making of a tape-recording of what goes on in our Library during a typical Friday afternoon, as well as for a much-needed table, and to Mr. Ray Akerman for the installation of our new lighting fixture.

The interest, kindness and help which have come our way from many sources challenge us to do all we can to further the growth of a fine public Library in our community. And of course we are deeply cognizant of the firm foundation laid by all those who have worked so faithfully before us.

Sincerely and Respectfully Submitted,

LENA B. MILLER
ELSIE RESOR
ELIZABETH ORTON JONES

Trustees

REPORT OF LIBRARY BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Library Building Committee wishes to report that we have contacted a few people who are interested in a building to be built as a memorial to some of the old families who have been prominent in this town. As they have expressed a desire to contribute to that end, we suggest that further effort be made to secure the necessary funds.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRACY A. EATON
FRANCIS J. COYNE
ELSIE A. RESOR
LENA B. MILLER
ELIZABETH ORTON JONES

Committee

REPORT OF FOREST FIRE WARDEN

This past year there were three fires covering nine acres. Immediate response of local volunteers and neighboring fire departments have served us well in keeping fires under control.

Our Town laws require that no fires are permitted out-of-doors without a Fire Permit. The Fire Warden issued 32 permits during the year. Even with a permit, let's be fire conscious and stamp it out before it burns you out. Report all fires and smoke to the Warden without delay.

REPORT OF OLD HOME DAY COMMITTEE

Old Home Day was observed Saturday, August 20. A program of sports for the youngsters of all ages and a baseball game "married vs. single" (the final score was anyone's guess), as well as the Ladies' Aid holding their annual bazaar on the common, filled up the afternoon. Supper served by the ladies — Grange and Ladies' Aid — was up to its usual fine standard, and left us all in a happy frame of mind to enjoy "just visiting" or to take in the dance that followed in the Town Hall later in the evening.

REPORT OF SELECTMEN

It would seem that this might well be an appropriate time to take inventory, ascertain the position of the town at present and what is far more important take a good long hard look into the future. This look into the future to be translated into an effort to chart a financial course that would be for the best interests of the town and its people.

There is no reason to believe that in the foreseeable future that the cost of town operations will be less. Consequently the tax burden on the individual property tax payer will reflect this condition. It was shown on the warrant of last year by means of a chart that the School

District takes a substantial part of the tax dollar. This school cost is steady and substantially mounting in spite of the best efforts of those in charge of school affairs. This is a normal condition, reflecting today's trend everywhere and certainly should not be considered as a criticism of the school operation. It would seem from all signs pointing to the future that the costs will continue to rise. The operating costs of the town other than the schools have remained more nearly constant. Increased expenditures in town operating costs for the most part are really capital expenditures. These are reflected principally in such things as improved roads. We have been extremely fortunate that damage suffered by the roads because of the hurricanes of the past year could be repaired without a heavy financial outlay.

However, there is no reason to believe that town operating costs will continue to remain at the present modest low level indefinitely. In an effort to meet future conditions your selectmen have caused to be placed in the warrant for the townspeople's consideration articles pertaining to a planning board and its companion article pertaining to a building code together with an article for a financial advisory committee. It is our considered opinion that adoption of these articles would materially assist in preventing the town's financial position from becoming more aggravated than necessary under normal growth.

Respectfully submitted,

FORREST A. CAMERON
RAYMOND C. AKERMAN
THOMAS B. CALKIN

Selectmen of Mason

SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICERS

Moderator: Mr. Tracy A. Eaton	March 1956
Clerk: Miss Sybil M. Beatham	March 1956
Treasurer: Mrs. Mildred Wharff	June 1955
Auditor: Mr. Toivo Kivimäki	March 1956

School Board Members

Mrs. Elsa Crathern, Chairman	March 1956
Mr. Harold Forrest, Secretary	March 1957
Miss Margaretta Voorhees	March 1958

Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Newell J. Paire

School Nurse

Miss Sybil M. Beatham, R. N.

Teaching Staff For 1955-1956

Mr. Robert Shea, Principal	Grammar Room
Mrs. Cynthia Barron	Primary Room
Miss Elsie Wheeler	Music Supervisor

School Calendar

1955-56:

School opens January 4, 1956, Closes February 17
School opens February 27, Closes April 20
School opens April 30, Closes June 15

1956-57:

School opens September 5, Closes November 21
School opens November 26, Closes December 21
School opens January 7, Closes February 15
School opens February 25, Closes April 19
School opens April 29, Closes June 4
Holidays: Memorial Day, May 30
Teachers' Convention: October 18 and 19
(subject to change)

Total number of School Days	180
Total number of Weeks	37

SCHOOL BOARD'S ESTIMATED BUDGET

School Board's statement of amounts required to support public schools and meet other statutory obligations of the district for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1956, and comparative analysis of expenditures.

	Expended 1954-55	Budgeted 1955-56	Estimated Budget 1956-57
A. Administration			
1. Salaries of District Officers	\$ 137.00	\$ 137.00	\$ 212.00
2. Superintendent's salary (local share)	**223.38	226.13	240.30
3. Tax for state wide supervision	114.00	102.00	124.00
4. Salaries of other administrative personnel	123.40	127.02	157.40
5. Supplies & expenses	184.16	167.95	169.23
B. Instruction:			
6. Teachers' salaries	5,863.80	6,321.00	6,856.00
7. Books & other instructional aids	449.33	186.00	196.00
8. Scholars' supplies	491.43	327.10	338.00
10. Other instructional expenses	93.29	28.00	28.00
C. Operation of School Plant			
11. Salary of custodian	203.20	205.00	205.00
12. Fuel or heat	302.84	250.00	275.00
13. Water, light & other expenses	203.12	133.00	157.00
D. Maintenance of School Plant:			
14. Repairs & replacements	164.94	150.00	155.00
E. Auxiliary Activities:			
15. Health supervision	132.90	150.00	160.00
16. Transportation	3,070.00	3,730.00	3,870.00
17. Tuition	1,870.00	2,800.00	5,105.00
18. Special fund activities	79.25	40.00	40.00
18a. School lunch	76.48		
F. Fixed Charges			
19. Teacher retirement	400.27	430.85	467.51

20. Insurance, bonds and expenses	151.38	177.00	132.00
Total current expenses	\$14,334.17	\$15,688.05	\$18,887.44
G. Capital Outlay:			
21. Land & new buildings		150.00	150.00
22. Additions & improvements	400.00	50.00	50.00
23. New equipment	317.88	230.00	150.00
H. Debt and Interest:			
25. Payments on principal	600.00	600.00	600.00
26. Payments of interest	56.00	62.00	50.00
Total net payments	\$15,708.05		
I. Payments of "In and Out" Items	204.72		
J. Balance on Hand June 30, 1955	6.58		
Total Gross Payments for All Purposes	\$15,919.35		
K. Total Amount Required To Meet School Board's Budget		\$16,780.05	\$19,887.44
L. Income of District:			
	Actual	Estimated	Estimated
Balance on hand June 30, 1954	369.84	6.58	
State aid	511.87	* 250.00	
School lunch	76.48		
Trust funds	620.92	500.00	500.00
Local taxation	14,135.52		
"In and Out" items	204.72		
Total Income	\$15,919.35	\$ 756.58	\$ 500.00
M. Total Assessment Required to cover school board's budget	\$14,135.52		

N. Total Estimated Assessment Required to Cover	
School Board's Budget	\$16,023.47 \$19,387.44

*Balance due district from Town for 1953-54 Budget

**Supervisory Union #63 share of Superintendent's Salary \$4,525; State share \$2,500

REPORT OF SCHOOL DISTRICT TREASURER

Fiscal Year July 1, 1954 to June 30, 1955

SUMMARY

Cash on Hand July 1, 1954	\$	369.84
Received from Selectmen:		
Current Appropriation	14,135.32	
Received from State Treasurer:		
State Funds	588.35	
Received from Trust Funds	620.92	
Received from all Other Sources	204.72	
Total Receipts	\$	15,549.51
Total Amount Available for Fiscal Year	\$	15,919.35
Less School Board Orders Paid		15,912.77
Balance on Hand June 30, 1955	\$	6.58
July 1, 1955		

MILDRED WHARFF

District Treasurer

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that I have examined the books, vouchers, bank statements and other financial records of the treasurer of the school district of Mason of which the above is a true summary for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1955 and find them correct in all respects.

July 12, 1955

TOIVO KIVIMAKI

Auditor

**STATISTICS FOR SCHOOL YEAR
ENDING JUNE 30, 1955**

ENROLLMENT

School	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Primary	7	7	12						26
Grammar				7	5	5	7	5	29
									<hr/> 55

ATTENDING SCHOOLS ELSEWHERE

Appleton Academy	4
Townsend High School	3
Parochial School Outside District	2

**STATISTICS FOR FIRST TWENTY WEEKS
1955-1956**

Census: (1 day to 18 yrs. incl.)

Boys 51; Girls 46; Total 97

Attending Mason Public Schools	46
Attending Public Schools Outside District	1
Attending Private Schools Outside District	9
Attending Parochial Schools Outside District	2

REPORT OF SCHOOL NURSE

I hereby respectfully submit my annual report on the Health Supervision for the school year 1954-55. Transportation was the most engrossing problem for the school nurse, arranging for transportation to the dental clinic in Wilton that was sponsored by the Mason School Club and then in May arranging for transportation for the children to go to the Salk Polio Vaccine Clinic in Milford. It is difficult because so many parents work out of town and have need of the automobiles during the time that the clinics are in session. The response was most gratifying, however, and both clinics were successfully completed to the best of our ability, and the Mason School Club was very helpful in both instances.

Dr. H. E. Karr examined each child in November and made recommendations as to the remedying of defects. Under the Dental Program of the State in which the Mason School Club matched the funds, Dr. Roy, of Wilton, came to the school and examined the teeth of all the children, and then fifteen children were taken to his office for dental care. I assisted both Dr. Karr and Dr. Roy with their examinations and assisted also in sending home the necessary forms for the clinic. All dental work necessary at the time was completed for the fifteen children in the ten visits to the dentist's office.

The children were examined monthly for evidence of communicable disease and vision screening was done by means of the Snellon Chart. The children were measured and weighed twice during the year and most showed a satisfactory gain. Notices were sent to the parents of any physical defect. Upper respiratory infections were many through the year but a question of whooping cough at the end of the year was the only communicable disease for this year.

The Salk Polio Vaccine Clinic and program took a great deal of time due to the confusion surrounding its fulfilment and the necessity of postponement after the arrangements had been made. I assisted in giving the vaccine on May 25, 1955, in Milford and made a post clinic visit to check on the possibility of reactions. One child had a temperature the day of the injection and on the following day, but made a complete recovery. Complete data has been turned over to the State Health Nurse to be used if the vaccine is to be given during the summer vacation.

Defects found by Dr. Karr on his examination:

Wax in ears	2
Enlarged tonsils	10
Defective teeth	15
Cervical glands — enlarged	2
Thyroid gland — enlarged	1
Overweight	1
Acne	5

SYBIL M. BEATHAM, R. N.

School Nurse

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

To the School Board and Citizens of Mason:

I respectfully submit my ninth annual report as your Superintendent of School.

Staff and Instruction

We are indeed fortunate in being able to retain the staff that we had last year, namely, Mrs. Elliott Barron, teaching grades 1 through 3; Mr. Robert Shea, acting as Principal and teaching grades 4 through 8; Miss Elsie Wheeler teaching and supervising the music program and Miss Sybil Beatham providing for nursing services and watching over the health of our children.

We have continued to stress the fundamentals, namely the 3 R's with proper attention being given to the social and emotional development of our children. Special attention has been given this year to arithmetic fundamentals and the development of good reading habits.

I wish to commend Miss Elsie Resor for her splendid cooperation in helping us to develop an effective supplementary reading program by obtaining an adequate supply of appropriate reading matter and by her personal interest in the reading habits of our children. I wish also to thank Miss Elizabeth Orton Jones for the time and effort she has devoted to our children in interesting them in art and teaching them the techniques of art work. The Book-Week Program was a tribute to her and to all others concerned with developing the program.

Instruction today requires a different type of furniture than in the past. The old fixed furniture is reminiscent of the strict, in line, questions-response technique of teaching. Today we must develop our program around group activities with much pupil participation and leadership. Consequently, it is necessary to have larger top surfaces, larger book spaces, and mobility of the unit. Last year we started on a program of providing such a desk and chair unit for the primary room. This year the school board has provided a sum of money in the budget to continue this program in the upper grade room.

Playground

The work that has been done the past few years on

the playground has given us an excellent play area. However, more fill is necessary in certain areas and it is hoped that in the near future we may have a tarred area for basketball activities and lined court games. A small amount is included in the budget to continue the playground improvement program.

Building Maintenance

Our building is in excellent condition, and with small amounts of money budgeted annually we can maintain this condition. Our custodian, Frank Newell, is doing an excellent job in this department.

Unfortunately, the water pipe from the well to the pump filled with rust and had to be replaced with plastic pipe. This was done this past summer and should eliminate any problems of this nature for an extended period of time.

Finance

The School Board's Budget for 1956-57, calls for an appropriation of \$19,887.44, an increase of \$3,107.39 over that of last year. The major areas of increase are tuitions \$2,305 and teachers' salaries, \$535. The remainder is in the areas of operation and maintenance of the school plant, transportation and other fixed charges.

It is estimated that we will have seventeen pupils attending various high schools, with tuitions ranging from \$275 in Milford to \$305 at Appleton Academy. This is seven more than we budgeted for in 1955-56. The school census for 1955, reveals that we can anticipate a high school tuition responsibility of 19 students in 1958-59. The increased number of pupils, combined with the increased costs of instruction will reflect itself in rising tuition costs for the school district.

The inability of the school board to anticipate any balance for the school year 1955-56 reflects a loss of estimated income amounting to \$256.58 (the balance carried over from June 30, 1955).

It does not appear that the School District of Mason can realize any income from the State Equalization Fund. Following is a summary of the manner in which the State Aid for Mason is determined.

Elementary Average Daily Membership 1954-55	44.4	
Elementary Membership multiplied by \$200 per pupil		\$ 8,880.00
Secondary Average Daily Membership 1954-55	8.1	
Secondary Membership multiplied by \$300 per pupil		2,430.00
Total Cost of Foundation Program		11,310.00
1954 Equalized Valuation 936,363		
Less 14 dollar tax on Equalized Valuation		13,109.08
Total Foundation Aid for which qualified		000.00

The wealth factor as indicated by the \$14 tax exceeds the cost of the foundation program, consequently Mason does not receive any aid. An addition of 9 elementary pupils or 6 secondary pupils would make the foundation aid cost exceed the equalized valuation factor, if the equalized valuation of the district remained constant.

Retention of capable teacher is one of the most important factors in providing an effective educational program for your children. Consequently, it is necessary for the district to pay salaries that will attract and retain good teachers. It is a competitive market and we must meet this competition.

A special article appears in the warrant requesting the district to assume the cost of the telephone that was installed in the Mason School by the Mason School Club on a trial basis. Careful consideration and thought should be given to this article. The annual cost is estimated at \$66 for an 8 party line.

Conclusion

I wish to again express my deep appreciation to the Mason School Board, the Mason School Club and the citizens of Mason for their cooperation and assistance in administering and supervising the educational program in our school.

NEWELL J. PAIRE

Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL WARRANT

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

To the Inhabitants of the School district in the town of Mason qualified to vote in district affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said district on the 16th day of March 1956, at eight o'clock in the afternoon, to act upon the following subjects:

1. To choose a Moderator for the coming year.
2. To choose a Clerk for the ensuing year.
3. To choose a Member of the School Board for the ensuing three years.
4. To choose a Treasurer for the ensuing year.
5. To determine and appoint the salaries of the School Board and Truant Officer, and fix the compensation of any other officers or agent of the district.
6. To hear the reports of Agents, Auditors, Committees, or Officers chosen, and pass any vote relating thereto.
7. To choose Agents, Auditors and Committees in relation to any subject embraced in this warrant.
8. To see what sum of money the district will raise and appropriate for the support of schools, for the salaries of school district officials and agents, and for the payment of statutory obligations of the district, and to authorize the application against said appropriation of such sums as are estimated to be received from the state foundation aid fund together with other income; the school board to certify to the selectmen the balance between the estimated revenue and the appropriation, which balance is to be raised by taxes by the town.
9. To see if the district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty-six dollars (\$66.00) for the pur-

pose of paying the service charges for the telephone recently installed in the elementary school by the Mason School Club, or take any action relating thereto.

10. To see if the district will vote to hold the School District meeting on the same day as the Town Meeting, or take any action relating thereto.

11. To see if the district will vote to have the bus transport school children of all ages attending grades 1 - 8 in the Mason School, direct from their homes to the Mason School (as was the original agreement when district schools were closed to have a central school) and appropriate annually a sum to continue the same for the ensuing years or take any action relating thereto.

Given under our hands at said Mason this 24th day of February 1956.

ELSA CRATHERN
HAROLD FORREST
MARGARETTA VOORHEES

School Board

A true copy of Warrant—Attest:

SYNOPSIS OF 1955 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Article

1. Polls declared open at 9:00 A. M.
2. Appropriated \$9,504.72 for Town Budget.
3. Conray Wharff elected Trustee of Trust Funds.
4. Alfred Spear elected Trustee of Cemeteries.
5. Elizabeth Jones elected Trustee of Library.
6. \$200.00 appropriated for Library.
7. \$2,000.00 appropriated for Highways and Bridges.
8. \$587.36 appropriated for T. R. A.
9. \$2,500.00 appropriated for sealing coat, hardtop roads.
10. \$250.00 appropriated for care of cemeteries.

11. \$100.00 appropriated for Memorial Day. Carl Valyou elected Chairman.
12. Authorized borrowing \$10,000.00 in anticipation of taxes.
13. \$225.00 appropriated for Street Lighting.
14. Voted 2% 30-days' discount on tax bills.
15. \$100.00 appropriated for control of Dutch Elm Disease.
16. Selectemen authorized to sell to former owner only, Real Estate bought at Tax Sale.
17. Sale of Real Estate owned by Town not authorized.
18. \$250.00 appropriated for insuring Town Employees.
19. Voted to have all unexpended balances of Town Appropriations — excluding School — returned to General Fund.
20. State audit indefinitely postponed.
21. \$34.00 appropriated for Monadnock Region Association.
22. Voted 8% of Town's 10% allowance to Tax Collector as compensation for collecting Head Tax.
23. \$1,000.00 appropriated for Graveling and Draining Town roads.
24. \$25.00 appropriated for Old Home Day.
25. \$500.00 appropriated for erecting War Memorial.
26. Voted to close, subject to Gates and Bars, road from Brown's Corner to Pratt Pond Road.
27. Indefinitely postponed.
28. Appointed Committee of five to review Rules of Town Meeting and report next year.
29. Reports read and accepted.

VITAL STATISTICS

MARRIAGES

1955
July 9

Gordon Alan Rossley and Beatrice Lua Moore-
head by Rev. Stanley M. Paulson, Quonset
Pt., R. I.

Sept. 17	Bradlee Walter Cleveland and Joan May Moore Rev. Eugene Watson, Greenville, N. H.
Dec. 2	Jerome Edcil Canney, Jr., and Joy Bassett by Rev. Carlton Easton, Lee, N. H.
Dec. 8	James Treble and Gertrude Emily Rossley by Rev. Eugene Watson, Greenville, N. H.

BIRTHS

1955

Mar. 9	Dorothy Bailey	Thomas Bailey Calkin Joan Estey Robinson
Apr. 2	Steven Alan	Alfred Mark Spear Margaret Maud Brundige
Apr. 20	Donna Kaye	George Oliver Lord Hazel Belle Clary
June 14	Ronald Werner	A. Oliver Ilomaki Vivian Olsen
Aug. 1	John Leland Meryl	Donald Meryl Witty Ila Kathlene Walker
Aug. 11	Heidi Laila	Guy Porter Washburn Laila Suominen
Sept. 16	Richard Oiva	Oiva Walfrid Murto Helvi Lempi Lohtonen
Oct. 14	Marie Ann	Bradlee Walter Cleveland Joan Mae Moore

DEATHS

1955

Jan. 9	Rose S. Eaton
Jan. 18	Robert Elliott Rossley
Feb. 7	Ida May Nicholson
Mar. 2	Emma Elliott
Apr. 4	Daniel Green
Aug. 11	Herman Victor Everett
Sept. 5	August M. Helstein
Oct. 23	Peter Demitropoulos
Dec. 15	Everett H. Whitaker
Dec. 22	Alfred L. Elliott
Dec. 25	Myrtie Belle Adams
Dec. 29	Mary Elizabeth Ilomaki

